

Claims:

- 1 1. An Internet appliance for transmitting and receiving fax messages, comprising:
2 a network connection section for communication with a network, the network connection
3 device being capable of communicating using both data protocols and fax protocols;
4 a video section including a video signal output connectable to a video display for
5 outputting video signals to be displayed on the video display;
6 a user interface signal receiver for receiving user interface signals generated by a
7 reduced-keyset user interface device; and
8 a processing unit which controls the network connection section and the video section
9 to generate video signals for displaying received fax messages on the video display,
10 wherein the processing unit provides user interface functions by generating video signals for
11 displaying information to the user and processing the user interface signals received by the
12 user interface signal receiver in accordance with the information displayed to the user, the
13 interface functions enabling the user to control transmission, reception and display of fax
14 messages solely through the reduced-keyset user interface unit.

- 1 2. The Internet appliance of claim 1, wherein the processing unit is operable to store
2 received fax messages on a server connected to the network.

- 1 3. The Internet appliance of claim 2, wherein the network connection section is operable to
2 maintain simultaneous connection with a transmitting fax system and the server over the
3 network, and wherein the processing unit is operable to store incoming fax messages on a
4 server connected to the network at the time the messages are received.

- 1 4. The Internet appliance of claim 2, wherein the user interface functions include
2 searching, filtering, and cataloging a collection of received fax message stored on the server.

1 5. The Internet appliance of claim 1, wherein the processing unit causes a viewing receipt
2 to be transmitted to an originating fax system after displaying a fax message received from the
3 originating fax system on the video display.

1 6. The Internet appliance of claim 1, further comprising a printing section for selectively
2 printing stored fax messages in response to a user selection.

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